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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/066,725	02/06/2002	Kaoru Murase	2002_0184A	4067
513 7590 08/06/2008 WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P. 2033 K STREET N. W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021				
EXAMINER HENNING, MATTHEW T				
ART UNIT 2131		PAPER NUMBER		
MAIL DATE 08/06/2008		DELIVERY MODE PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**DETAILED ACTION**

**Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment**

The reply filed on 4/30/2008 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

The claims, as amended are directed towards an independent and distinct invention from the claims which were previously pending and have already been acted upon.

- I. Claim 1-2, 4, 7-14, 17-18, 22-26, 28-31, 34-36, 38-41, 44, and 46-48, as submitted on 10/27/2007, drawn to a method for destroying portions of data needing to be nullified for protection of content rights, classified in class 726, subclass 33.
- II. Claims 1-2, 4, 7-14, 17-18, 22-26, 28-31, 35-36, 38-41, and 44, as submitted on 4/30/2008, drawn to a system and method for destroying all data, classified in class 707, subclass 200.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as

claimed because the combination does not require destruction of all data [in existence]. The subcombination has separate utility such as destroying all data.

The applicant is not permitted to present claims directed to an invention distinct from and independent of the invention previously claimed. See 37 CFR 1.145.

As such, the claim amendment has not been entered.

See 37 CFR 1.111.

Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MATTHEW T. HENNING whose telephone number is (571)272-3790. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2131

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Matthew T Henning/

Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2131

/Ayaz R. Sheikh/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2131